

INTERIOR DESIGNERS ARE SPACE PLANNERS

Space planning requires interior designers to create drawings documenting the client's goals and requirements. Space planning ensures drawings are in compliance with the International Building Code (IBC) adopted by all states, and any additional state and local codes including:

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

All spaces inhabited by the public are required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

These requirements include but are not limited to:

- Heights for elevator controls, door hardware, and counters
- Height and depth for objects encroaching on a path of travel or aisleway
- Clearances at doorways including ability and strength required to operate doors
- Provision of ramps and handrails for accessibility
- Required clearances at doors
- Clearances and mounting heights for restroom fixtures (toilets, sinks, mirrors, etc.)

Fire & Life-Safety Codes:

- Provision of clear aiseways and horizontal exiting
- Location and size of fire-rated partitions and doors
- Mounting heights and locations of fire extinguisher cabinets, including free and clear access
- Location of exit signs properly identifying the path of egress for occupants
- Coordination with the electrical engineer for emergency lighting levels
- Coordination with the appropriate sub-contractor/engineer to locate the audio and visual alarm system throughout the premises
- Specification of materials complying with fire and health codes (fabrics, wallcoverings, draperies, paint, woods, laminates, glazing, and flooring)



INTERIOR DESIGNERS ARE PROJECT MANAGERS

Project management is:

- Preparation of construction and furniture, fixtures, and equipment budgets and schedules
- Preparation of bid documents, coordination of consultants and their work/services
- Review of bids/contracts with consultants
- Review and approval of requested additional services
- Coordination with landlord

These services are provided on behalf of the client protecting their financial and physical interests.



INTERIOR DESIGNERS PREPARE CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

These documents (varying with the complexity of the project) may consist of:

- Partition plans
- Reflected ceiling plans
- Power and data plans
- Finish plans
- Furniture plans
- Occupancy plans
- Enlarged plans as required
- Fully dimensioned elevations
- Construction details
- Path of egress documents for the project's building and floors including horizontal exiting of occupants
- Fully dimensioned drawings showing full ADA compliance

These drawings are stamped and sealed by the qualified interior designer, coordinated with the engineer(s) where appropriate, and submitted for plan check approval. They are also issued for construction to the selected general contractor.

For more information on what interior designers do, contact IIDA Director of Advocacy, Emily Kluczynski at ekluczynski@iida.org or 312.379.5128.